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TRENDS

ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN RAILROADS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, February 2, 1984 -- Freight traffic on major U.S. railroads during the week ended January 28 totaled an estimated 17.2 billion ton-miles, 15.0 percent above the corresponding week a year ago, the Association of American Railroads reported today.

Cumulative volume for the first four weeks of 1984 was an estimated 64.0 billion ton-miles, 7.9 percent above the comparable period of last year.

Carloadings in the week ended January 28 totaled 386,030 cars, 13.4 percent above 1983, and 5.3 percent higher than the preceding week of this year. Compared with last year, loadings were up 21.3 percent in the East, 5.7 percent in the South and 13.5 percent in the West.

Compared with the corresponding week of 1983, 18 of the 21 commodity groups were up, led by loadings of waste and scrap materials, up 50.3 percent; motor vehicles and equipment, up 31.8 percent; and grain, which posted a 29.3 percent gain. Seventeen of the 21 groups were up from the preceding week of this year.

Piggyback

The AAR also reported that piggyback freight traffic on major railroads for the week ended January 21 totaled 46,729 cars, up 23.0 percent from the corresponding week of 1983 and 81,607 trailers and/or containers, 25.8 percent higher than last year.

The cumulative volume of TOFC/COFC traffic for the first three weeks of the year was 132,237 cars, 18.1 percent higher than last year, and 231,858 trailers and/or containers, up 22.3 percent.

(more)

Following are carloadings of major railroads, by commodity groups, for the week ended 1/28/84:

	Loadings in Week ended January 28, 1984		Change from Corresponding Week 1983			Change from Preceding Week	
	Cars		Cars	Percent		Cars	Percent
Grain	31,502	I	7,133	29.3	I	686	2.2
Other farm products	5,151	D	977	15.9	I	676	15.1
Metallic ores	12,718	I	2,057	19.3	D	510	3.9
Coal	108,003	I	12,307	12.9	I	10,497	10.8
Crushed stone, gravel and sand	7,952	I	1,089	15.9	I	496	6.7
Nonmetallic minerals	11,635	I	892	8.3	D	415	3.4
Grain mill products	12,341	I	16	0.1	I	117	1.0
Food and kindred products	11,087	D	1,380	11.1	I	68	0.6
Primary forest products	12,872	D	1,569	10.9	I	73	0.6
Lumber and wood products except furniture	7,517	I	196	2.7	I	528	7.6
Pulp, paper and allied products	15,258	I	65	0.4	I	673	4.6
Chemicals and allied products	25,684	I	3,276	14.6	I	1,198	4.9
Petroleum products	5,309	I	561	11.8	I	300	6.0
Stone, clay and glass products	9,154	I	573	6.7	I	593	6.9
Coke	4,534	I	484	12.0	D	8	0.2
Metals and products	9,503	I	2,029	27.1	I	355	3.9
Motor vehicles and equipment	20,474	I	4,940	31.8	D	126	0.6
Waste and scrap materials	10,234	I	3,426	50.3	I	265	2.7
Forwarder and shipper association traffic	10,373	I	1,640	18.8	I	686	7.1
All other carloads	54,409	I	8,655	18.9	I	3,073	6.0
LCL traffic	320	I	100	45.5	I	37	13.1
Total Cars Loaded	386,030	I	45,513	13.4	I	19,262	5.3
Corresponding week of 1983	340,517						

	1984	1983	% Change
Total Cars Loaded (4 weeks)	1,437,345	1,337,662	I 7.5
Estimated revenue ton-miles (in billions):			
3 weeks ended January 21	46.8	44.3	I 5.5
Week ended January 28	17.2	15.0	I 15.0
4 weeks cumulation	64.0	59.3	I 7.9

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